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AGRICULTURAL.

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PRESENT STATE OF THE SCIENCE OF AGRICULTURE IN ENGLAND.

[Continued.]

There is another class, however, of manures that deserves inquiry as much as any branch of agricultural practice, and which also seems to lend itself more readily to our experiments—those which are not produced by animals upon the farm, whether in the yard, the stall, or the fold, but which are procured by the farmer, either from the earth, lime, for instance, marl, peat ashes, gypsum, nitre; or, as the refuse of certain trades, such as bones, rape dust, malt dust, even woollen rags. The former of these which may be called the mineral manures, are now perhaps in more limited use than in past times; still in Devonshire and some midland counties, lime is regarded as indispensable, and is carried very long distances over bad roads at a heavy expense; but marl, which was once so highly valued, is in many districts almost forgotten. Not so with the second class, which may be called the refuse manures: of these, bones in particular, form a new feature in our husbandry, and their consumption is yearly increasing. In the year 1823 the declared value of all the bones imported from foreign parts was but 14,295*l.*; in 1832 it was 78,000*l.*; in 1835 it had reached 155,279*l.*; in the next year, 1836, it advanced to 171,806*l.*; and in the following year, the last of which we have any account, it amounted to no less a sum than 254,600*l.* This is the declared value, which the real value greatly exceeds; and it excludes altogether, of course, the large quantity of this article which must be produced at home. At present, bones are chiefly applied to the turnip crop, and on some soils their effect is certain and great. Yet no single instance can show the necessity and advantage of scientific inquiry more than this new manure. It is well known that bones contain a large portion of oil, which is usually extracted by boiling; and it might naturally be supposed, since oily substances are used separately as manures, that the natural oil should at least be left in the bones, which are intended to be so applied; and farmers, accordingly, who purchase bones have complained that these had fraudulently been boiled. Now, contrary to expectation, there is reason to doubt whether the bones are not actually improved as a manure by the loss of that oil, by which, if such be the truth, their own active principle, whatever it be, would appear to be deadened and sheathed. This is a point that may be easily tested; but there are larger questions connected with the use of bones. They are, as is well known, an expensive manure, and their price is rising; but it is by no means known in what quantity they should be applied. At 10 bushels to the acre, however, if the cost be 3*s.* per bushel, the outlay is already large, namely 30*s.*, a sum probably exceeding the rent. At 20 bushels it will be 3*l.*, or 300*l.* for a field of 100 acres. But as yet there is reason to doubt whether any increased quantity beyond 25 bushels of small bones produces any increased benefit to the crop; and no one will venture to assert that he knows the point beyond which an additional outlay is a mere loss of money and waste of a manure which is becoming daily more scarce. Again, as to the kind of soil on which bones may profitably be applied, there are some on which they have as utterly failed, as they have signally succeeded on others; but on this important point, as on the preceding, the valuable answers returned, chiefly by practical farmers, to the questions sent out by the Doncaster Agricultural Association, at the instance of Mr Childers, afford the only authentic data to which we can refer at present for guidance.

After the ground has been duly prepared, there is still ample room for inquiry and for improvement. On the best season of wheat sowing, for instance, there exists great difference of opinion amongst cultivators. Dr Mavor, in his "General View of the Agriculture of Berkshire," published no longer ago than the year 1813, states that, on the chalk hills of that county, wheat was sown as early as August. This year a practical farmer of that very district has given his opinion that it matters not how late wheat is sown, and that December is soon enough. The quantity, too, of grain to be sown is a matter of varying practice, and there are high authorities for thick sowing and for thin. Yet a saving of half a bushel of seed, if it can be properly made, will be a gain of 3*s.* per acre, or about one-sixth of the average rent of arable land to the renter, and of 240,000 quarters, or 600,000*l.* to the country each year. Now, this question can obviously be solved, not by loose argument, or appeals to practice, which is always appealed to while and where each practice obtains, but by careful, extended observation continued through a variety of mild and hard winters, wet and dry springs and summers. As to the quality of seed to be sown, no one can doubt that much good may here be reasonably expected from increased attention.

That well known variety of barley the Chevallier, is an instance in point. The discoverer, Dr Chevallier, has obligingly sent the following account of its origin, in reply to an inquiry from our secretary:—"An extraordinary fine ear was observed and selected, by a laborer of mine, in the parish of Debenham, 1819; in the spring of 1820 I planted 27 grains in my garden: in 1825 I planted half an acre of this species, and half an acre of the common species; the land under precisely similar conditions of cultivation. The produce of the first amounted to 8 1-2 coombs; of the second, 6 1-2. The ears of the first averaged 34 grains; the second 30: the grains of the first heavier, as four to five. In the course of five or six years it was generally accepted and approved in my neighborhood, as I promoted its fair trial, and charged only the current market price for it."

It is not enough for the farmer to know the best management of an individual crop, even of all crops singly, unless he know also in what order of succession they should follow each other. It is by improved knowledge of this order, and a better selection, that much improvement has already been effected in British agriculture. It is well known that crops of the same kind following each other become rapidly less productive; whether by exhausting the land of some fertile property, or by depositing, as has been lately supposed, some excrementitious matter injurious to the growth of their own species, though favorable, perhaps to the luxuriance of some other tribe. Be this as it may, no one would now think of growing, as formerly, wheat, barley, and oats in succession; and though Mr Hitchins, land surveyor, of Brighton, states that in his recollection, the tenants of a gentleman living in Sussex, when a clause was introduced into their leases prohibiting them from growing *more* than *two* white crops in succession, complained that they could not hope to defray their rents if fettered by such restrictions, few good farmers at present, on light soils at least, come even up to those limits by raising even two white crops, as they are called, in immediate succession. It is on these light lands, indeed, that a due rotation of crops has so signally succeeded, that, whereas they were formerly considered of very inferior value, they are now more readily occupied than those heavier soils, which, being in their nature more suited to the growth of wheat, were once valued more highly. And it is as much by the slow and almost insensible amelioration of such land, as by any increased breadth of cultivation, that the country has become in any degree capable of supporting the vast numbers which have been added to her population. A small parish might be pointed out, in which an aged farmer remembers the time when a single rick was all that it could produce of wheat in one year; whereas, without any increase of its ploughed ground, that same parish now yields five or six yearly. Its sandy soil was then drifted like snow before the wind, and the scanty barley might be sometimes seen borne away also; whereas the very fields, still called "The Sands," are now, by that glutinous quality which high condition imparts—by the droppings and the tread of the sheep which are fed on the turnips that now grow in garden-like order where before was a naked fallow, compacted into a brown and adhesive, though still sightish loam. But though the Norfolk or alternate, or four course system of husbandry (so called because its simple rotation consists of turnips followed by barley, and clover by wheat,) has conferred such great though silent benefits on the country, it may be doubted whether that system has not accomplished all that it is capable of, and must not pass into another. Already it has begun to fail in one of its green crops, probably in the other. The red clover, it is admitted, can be no longer repeated once in four years, and the substitution of white clover, or of rye grass in the alternate fourth year, or the prolongation of the course to five years by sowing rye grass with the clover, and thus leaving the ground in grass for two years successively, are but imperfect remedies. The evil, however, is likely to increase; for in Flanders, whence the red clover was originally brought over, and where

the land has been longer tired with its repetition, it has been destroyed in whole districts by a grey parasitical plant called *orobanche*, and the only cure has been the entire suspension of its cultivation in those districts for many years. It is well known, also, that in Norfolk, where the turnip has been longest cultivated, that root has become subject to a disease which distorts it with unhealthy excrescences; and it may be worth inquiry whether, apart from dry seasons and the depredations of insects, the late general failure of the turnip be not in some degree owing to its too frequent repetition.

Such being the ill results of a too scanty rotation, which consists in the endless repetition of four crops, the remedy must of course be sought in a greater diversity; and here we cannot but look to that neighboring country whence our green crops were first derived. In Flanders we find rotations, of great richness and endless diversity, carried over a term not of four years, but of ten, eleven, and even fourteen. Into all of these potatoes enter, consumed on the farm, being in fact the chief food of the cattle during the latter part of winter and the beginning of spring. Carrots, too, are sown on the same grown with barley or peas, and after either grain is harvested, come also to maturity in the autumn of the same year. The barley harvest, however, is much earlier than in this country. But though our summers do not certainly encourage such double culture, peas might be early enough ripe even with us to admit of its trial; but at all events, the Flemish carrot, a white variety, may be worth cultivating as the crop of the year, since it is said to yield 22 tons by the acre, where the common orange or Dutch carrot gives but 11. Parsnips, it appears, are grown also where the soil is too heavy for carrots, and being extremely hardy, are left in the ground during winter, and drawn only as they are required for immediate use. They are thought not so good for milch cows as carrots, but superior for fattening cattle. We have long had another root, the mangel-wurtzel, which may serve, if grown on a part of the turnip field, to prevent the evils arising from the too frequent recurrence of that principal crop; and it is well known, if stored up, to come into useful service for ewes with their lambs in the spring. There is a mode which our own farmers have taken towards the doubling of crops, not indeed on one piece of ground at one time, but on one piece in the same year.—Between the wheat harvest in August and the sewing of turnips in June, there occurs in the four-course system a gap of nine months' idleness for the soil. This interval is filled up, on a part at least of the wheat stubbles, with a crop of rye to be fed off green in the early spring, at the time when fresh food is most wanted for stock, and least easy to be procured. So far as this extends we have thus two crops where our forefathers left a naked fallow; and it may be worth inquiry again how far this system can be extended. But this important subject of the rotation of crops, though much may be done by individual enterprise, requires such minute attention to so complicated results spread over so long periods, that it is only on an experimental farm we can hope to see it fully investigated.

It might be supposed that when these different stages of husbandry had been successfully passed, when the subsoil of a farm had been mellowed, or rather when it had been gradually blended with the soil, and the soil itself might thus be said to have been brought to a double depth, when the surface of the field had been dressed with the most suitable manure, either natural dung, or artificial manure, whether of the mineral or refuse class, had been worked with the right implements, in the right manner, at the right time; sown with the most productive seed, and, above all, sown in the best course of rotation, when the crops thus prepared had been cleansed either by the hand or the horse-hoe (a method, this last, little known in the south of England, though long practiced and approved for the turnip crop in the north;) but it might be supposed when the crops had been thus made ready, that nothing remained for the farmer but to await the fostering influence of the sky, the dropping rains and alternate sunshine, until after a joyful harvest, he should reap the reward of his toil at the neighboring market. Little, however, does the sanguine calculator upon paper know of the farmer's real anxieties and frequent disappointments—of the blights, and rusts, and mildews; the insects and the fungi, which falling, as if in an unseen cloud, on his fields, impair, if not destroy the vegetative power which he has so carefully and expensively endeavored to nurture.

(To be continued.)

From the Albany Cultivator.

FARM WALL.

Common stone wall, for durability, and an effectual security to crops, is not surpassed by any other kind of fence. The making of it is somewhat expensive, but the benefit, resulting from removing a useless incumbrance from our farms, more than counterbalances the expense.

Although the advantages of this kind of fence are obvious, yet, with many, it is not in very high repute. They object, that it is every year falling down, and requires much labor to keep it in repair. This objection has some force from the fact that many of our walls in the western New York are unskilfully built.

The stones in this region are not generally of the best kind, and wall built of them will not stand as well as wall in those parts of the country where the material is more abundant and of better form. But I know from actual experiment, that wall built as it should be, will make a very permanent fence, and require but little repair.

Much of our wall in western New York is laid wrong side up, that is, the stones that are laid at the bottom should be laid at the top. The largest and best shaped stones are selected to be laid upon the grounnd, the next best for the second tier, and so on till the wall is topped out with small stones, unfit for the place. Although this, at first thought, might seem to be the best way of building, a little reflection and experience will teach a man that it is the very worst. Where will your round and cobble stones lie best? Is it not on the ground, where they will be firmly imbedded in earth, and must be immovable? And will not your large and well shaped stones make a much better superstructure than the small cobble stones?

In many parts of New England, wall-laying is a trade; and I have observed that they there select their poorest stones to lay upon the ground. They lay a broad foundation, and with small stones raise the wall from 8 to 12 inches high. This absorbs most of the poor stones. They then select stones a size larger, and lay them in a double row on each side of the wall, and thus raise their wall 12 or 15 inches. They then select their longest and best stones, and lay them across the wall, so as to firmly bind together the two sides, reserving smaller but good shaped stones for completing the top of the structure.

The wall, when thus built, should be secured by ploughing about three furrows on each side, and throwing up, with a shovel, the last furrow so as to raise an embankment against the wall, at least a foot high. By this means the small stones are all covered, and lying beneath the surface, will be but little affected by frost, and will lie as firm as the best stones you could select. Even if they were no larger than the stones used on a McAdamized road, they would make a firmer and surer foundation than broad and flat stones. The small stones will settle about uniformly and equally into the earth, and being pressed by larger stones above, will lie steady and unmoved in their place. But when large stones are laid upon the ground, the heaving of the frost, and the softness of the earth in a wet season, will cause them to settle more on one side than on the other, and thus tumble down the cobble stone structure above them.

The method of building wall here recommended, will, I think, commend itself to the reflecting and intelligent. But if any have doubts, I could easily remove them by showing them wall that has stood the test of time, remaining firm in its place, while wall laid in a different manner has become dilapidated.

There is another error in wall laying that I would notice. Some take great pains to lay the smooth surfaces of the stones outward, so as to give a handsome face to the wall. To effect this, they often lay the stones in the most unfavorable position. I have often seen a long and smooth stone set up edgewise and lengthwise in a wall, which seldom fails to be crowded out by the pressure from above, to the ruin of the wall. But do the best you can, no great beauty can be given to a stone wall; and here, as in other cases, *utility* should not be sacrificed to *beauty*. That wall will eventually *look* best, that *lies* best.

In making wall, I direct to have every stone laid in a position so that it will lie most firmly in its own place, and bind together most effectually the stones beneath and about it, without regard to the beauty of the wall when completed. A.

Pittsford, Monroe Co., N. Y.

To make Leather Water-proof.—Melt a pound of tallow with half a pound of rosin. When melted and mixed, warm the boots or shoes, and apply the mixture hot with a painter's brush, until the sole and upper leathers will suck in no more. If it be desired that the boots should immediately take a polish, dissolve an ounce of bees wax in an ounce of spirits of turpentine, to which add a teaspoonful of lampblack. A day or two after the boots have been treated with the tallow and rosin, rub them over with the wax and turpentine, but not before the fire. Thus the exterior will have a coat of wax alone, and shines like a mirror. Tallow or any other grease rots the stitching and the leather—rosin gives it an antiseptic quality and preserves it.

Rhubarb.—This excellent plant, which should have a place in every garden, is very easily raised, requiring nothing more than a rich loamy situation. It is an orchard in miniature, the stems of its leaves affording a substance which is an excellent substitute for apples, to make sauce or pies. The sauce made from it is a preventive of bowel complaints.

EXCRETIONS OF PLANTS.

From observation, we learn that the matter excreted by plants is, as a general thing, thrown out in such a condition as to be, not only unfit again to enter the system of the plant rejecting it, but positively deleterious; and further, that the excretions of different plants differ so much from each other, that whilst that thrown out by a plant is deleterious to others of the same species, it is sometimes well adapted to the nourishment of those of a different species. This fact will explain some of those rules which experience has taught the practical agriculturist. For instance, the rule that the same crop should not be grown for several years in succession upon the same piece of ground. It will not do to say, as is often done, that a second crop of wheat will not grow as well upon any given spot, as the first, because that spot has been exhausted of too great a portion of its nutritive matter by the first. This it is true is one reason, but if it be the only reason, or even the principal reason, we may ask, how is it that a crop of corn will succeed almost as well as if the wheat had never been grown there? The true explanation seems to be that the failure of the second crop of wheat arises not so much from the exhaustion of the soil, as from the existence in the soil of a portion of matter positively deleterious to wheat, deposited by the first crop; at the same time this matter is not injurious to the corn, and hence that crop will succeed when wheat would fail. To grow the same crop for several successive years upon the same spot, is, as De Candolle has very pertinently, though perhaps not very elegantly remarked, "like feeding an animal upon its own excrements."

It is much to be desired that this matter should be made a subject of more careful and more accurate experiments than it ever has as yet, as it is one which would doubtless admit of very important practical applications. If the precise nature of the matter retained and of that rejected by each of the crops in common cultivation could once be ascertained, it would seem to be an easy matter to determine the best order in which those crops should succeed each other. Perhaps, too, if this subject was better understood, we should find that the way in which some manures benefit land, is not by supplying nourishment to the plants growing on it, but by removing this deleterious matter from their roots. If this matter possessed the character of an acid, (and there are several facts which seem to render it almost certain that such is the character of the matter excreted by many plants) lime would act in this way—it would unite with the acid and neutralize its properties. The rotation of crops is a matter very generally attended to in farming, but in gardening, where it is of still greater importance, it is frequently neglected, and as a necessary consequence, garden plants degenerate under so injudicious a system of cultivation. Our best gardeners have been taught by experience never to sow the same plant even for two years in succession, upon the same spot of ground.

When the root of a plant is cut off, and the stem placed in water, the excrementitious matter, which in other circumstances would have been discharged from the roots, issues from the end of the stem. Hence it is that water in which flowers have been kept for some time, always becomes offensive. We commonly say that the water has become putrid; but pure water can never become putrid; the offensive character of the water in such circumstances arises entirely from the rejected matter excreted by the stem.

It is a fact, which I suppose all must have noticed, that some plants when placed in water together, seem to keep each other alive, whilst others produce just the opposite effect. This is owing to the nature of the matter excreted by their stems. Where the matter rejected by one plant is of such a nature as to be suited to the nourishment of the other, they will keep each other alive; but where the opposite is the case they will hasten each others death. In the same way we explain the fact that a nosegay composed of many different flowers, will, when placed in water, generally preserve its freshness much longer than one composed of the same number of flowers of the same species. There is a class of plants commonly called weeds, which cannot grow in the immediate neighborhood of our common cultivated plants without materially injuring them. This is doubtless in part owing to their consuming the nutritive matter contained by the soil, and in part also to their overshadowing the cultivated plant and thus shutting it out from the direct action of the sun, but it is also, in part, owing to the nature of the matter which they deposite in the soil. The common opinion that weeds poison the plants in whose immediate neighborhood they grow, is not mere imagination—it is nothing more than a simple statement of the facts of the case.

It is a curious fact, frequently noticed by botanists, that plants in their wild state, grow in natural groups. This is in part to be attributed to the varying nature of the soil—such plants as prefer a sandy soil, being collected together where such a soil occurs; and in part also to the operation of the matter deposited by them in the soil. Such plants as deposite matter of a nature fitted to sustain and assist each others growth, will generally be found growing together. It would seem, that in parcelling out the earth, the Creator has not assigned particular species of animals alone to particular portions, and given them the means of defending themselves against the aggression of their neighbors; but that he had taken the same kind of care for plants, at least to a certain extent. If a seed of a plant which properly belongs to one portion, is by accident thrown upon another, the plants to which that portion belongs, soon destroy it. Thus has the Creator fixed for every separate portion of creation, "the bounds of its habitation."—*Farmers' Register.*

Exhausted Lands too soon Abandoned.—The fault of the farmers upon our hard soil has been to abandon the ground after the skinning process. This was natural while other fertile lands remained in the vicinity to be cleared that would produce larger crops. And now a farmer that has mowed over forty, fifty and a hundred acres year after year until he has reduced the crop of hay down from two tons to one ton, half a ton and even four or five hundred pounds to the acre, is as a matter of necessity willing almost to give away the ground that yields so scantily, to seek a livelihood by taking women boarders at the price of a dollar or a dollar and a quarter a week, near some great factory establishment, or else to pack up "bag and baggage" and set out for the land of promise in the west.

To men so discouraged as these have been in times past, I believe the alternative offers of a much more certain chance of success in life; and that is, in the renovation of worn out farms. If a man is in debt to the amount of its whole value, he had better purchase a portion of what was his own on credit, and remain upon it, than abandon it.—With common health, with a good resolution and good habits, he may as soon lay a foundation for the future sustenance and comfort of himself and family as he can perhaps any where else. The poorest places for steady employment, I am induced to believe, are our largest towns and villages. Among the farmers the poor man can almost every where be employed at a price either in money or produce to help sustain his family: his wife and children who are of sufficient age can also find some kind of business where industry shall aid the exertions of the father: nay, is it not an event of frequent occurrence that females in a family alone earn its support? The poor man can work for others as well as on the ground which he has purchased or hired. But let him work it right at home. If he have but a single acre of the worn out land—I do not mean impervious rock or that gravel or sand on which labor and manure will have no effect, but that retentive soil which holds manure, or such barren wet soil as may be drained—or such impoverished soil as requires the plough or the iron bar to strike deeper than it has been wont; if he begin with an acre of such land and begins aright, the first year will give him better pay for the labor and application than he ever obtained under the skinning process; the product will be increased in a compound ratio in succeeding years; and in a few revolving seasons he will find his single acre yielding him more clear gain than some farmers obtain from fifty and a hundred acres, under the wearing-out mode of cultivation.—*Gov. Hill's Address.*

Night Soil.—Mr Robinson, of Baldwinsville, inquires "by what process night soil can be converted into an inodorous manure in a short time, so that any cultivator may be able at once to remove a nuisance and obtain a valuable manure." We are unable to inform Mr Robinson of the processes adopted where the preparation of poudrette is carried on extensively and in the most approved manner; but it is said in the 1st vol. British Husbandry, that "All unpleasantness of odor may be prevented by the mere use of ashes; and were those thrown upon the night soil or into privies that have no communication with sewers, the ashes made in every dwelling house would so completely absorb the fluid parts, that a solid heap of manure would be produced, which might afterwards be removed without difficulty or offensiveness." This is the method practiced extensively in some parts of England, and on the continent. Lime is, however, much better than ashes, and this is the disinfecting agent wherever poudrette is produced. In Rigby's Agricultural Reports, the following is recommended as the best method of preparing and using night soil: "Spread it on a spot of clean grass; let it be well harrowed on a clear drying day; then put it under cover, and add a chaldron of lime to four loads of the soil in that state, and it will become dry, and can be reduced to an inodorous powder." All that seems to be required, is to mingle with the drained material something that will dry and render the mass friable and pulverulent. Lime is the most efficient agent for this purpose, and that which is slaked, is stated in Pilkington's Transactions to be preferable for this purpose to that which is caustic.—*Albany Cultivator.*

That excellent paper the Genesee Farmer, has been united with the Albany Cultivator.

THE GOOD WORK ADVANCING.

Nothing can have a greater tendency to encourage the friends of an enlightened and judicious system of agriculture to persevere in their praiseworthy efforts, than the spirit of improvement which appears to be widely diffusing itself throughout our land. The results of the late Cattle Shows and Agricultural Exhibitions held in various parts of the Union during the present season—the increasing interest manifested by members and others—the fine condition of the stock exhibited—the great variety and value of new agricultural implements, and the determination of the tillers of the soil not to rest short of every attainable improvement to bring their farms to the highest grade in the scale of fertility, and of consequent profit to themselves, and great advantage to the community at large—are full of promise.

During the present year a large number of Agricultural Societies have been organized, possessing within themselves the elements of great good. Besides, several societies formed long since, and which were permitted to languish through the lukewarmness of their members, have been resuscitated—many new societies have been formed, numbering among their members many of the most enlightened and public spirited agriculturists of our country—and far greater attention has been paid to the interests of agriculture in all its various departments, than at any previous time. Experiments have been made, if not on the great scale, at least very extensively—and in this matter the farmer has a decided advantage. Knowledge has been greatly increased, and our brother farmers, many of them at least, are prepared to enter in good spirits and in somewhat improved circumstances, on the labors of another year.

The raising of roots for the purpose of feeding cattle is no longer a matter of experiment. The great importance of this crop is now established, and we presume that those persons who have put in their winter grain, where the sugar beet has been last raised, and especially if two successive crops have been taken from the same ground, provided the earth has been properly turned up, and the grain sown of a good quality, will be abundantly satisfied with the results of the ensuing season.—The sugar beet especially, and the root crop in general, has a tendency to leave the ground in admirable order for any of the small grain crops to succeed. While we recommend to every farmer to put in a full supply of roots the ensuing season, sufficient for his cattle during the next winter, we would advise him not to entertain the opinion, or even to attempt the manufacture of sugar from the beet. It is not the province of the farmer—and in the present state of chemical and agricultural science, it cannot become a profitable subject of household fabrication. To be successful, its manufacture must be conducted on the great scale, then there is neither risk nor difficulty. The farmer should be content with raising, at the present, a sufficient quantity of roots for his own use, and the keep of his stock, and when sugar manufactories and refineries are established, then it will be time to think of raising beets for the purpose of sugar-making; and no doubt, if the business is properly commenced—with a competent head, sufficient capital, and the right kind of machinery—a ready market at fair prices will be found for all the beets that can be raised within the proper circle of each manufacturing establishment. But, admitting that a pound of sugar is never made from the beet, still, its introduction into the country, and its almost universal culture, must be regarded as a national benefit. The large return it renders, the eagerness with which almost all kinds of stocks feed on it, and their disposition to fatten on it—its peculiar adaptations to dairy stock, not merely increasing the *quantity* but also the *quality* of the milk and butter, together with the excellent order in which it leaves the ground on which it is grown, all concur in pointing it out as one of the most eligible crops the farmer can raise. We would by no means have the sugar beet raised to the exclusion of other root crops, especially such as the ruta baga, carrot, potato, &c.; as a change, even for stock, is both good and desirable.

The more general introduction among our farmers of improved implements in agriculture, has not been without its effect. Many of these machines are calculated not only to lessen the labors of the field, but also perform the work in a more perfect manner than it can be done by hand.

The stigma so long attached to this, the most noble of all earthly pursuits, is washed away—the strong prejudices have been dissipated, and agriculture is now regarded by the truly intelligent, as not only the first of arts, but the most dignified calling that can claim the attention of men.—*Farmers' Cabinet.*

CHOICE OF A PROFESSION.

It has frequently occurred to us that our young men, on completing their studies in our colleges, mistake the road to usefulness and comfort in preferring the study of some *fashionable* profession to the pursuits and occupations of rural life. As soon as a young gentleman is admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts, his thoughts are turned on the future, and perhaps the first resting place they find is upon the acquirement of professional knowledge of some kind, which to him seems the only road to wealth or distinction. Thus we see the science of agriculture neglected by those who *are* capable of investigating it as it should be; and every possible inducement to engage in the improvement of the soil, and to assist nature in what she is wont to do for man is but a feather in the scale of reasoning. And through fear of adopting some pursuit that is attended with a little *labor*, and, as some call it, *drudgery*—but which is the greatest conducive to good health—resort is had to the study of some *profession*—which has done, and we fear is doing great injury to our country. We wage no war against professions of any kind; on the contrary, they are indispensable, but it is a fact that it is considered an *unpopular* step nowadays for a young man on completing his academic studies, to devote his time and talents, if he possesses any, to the advancement of the cause of agriculture.

We have before us an address, delivered before the young gentlemen admitted to the degree of Bachelor of Arts, at the first commencement of the University of Nashville, by its venerable President, Dr Philip Lindsey—which deserves to be more extensively circulated than we fear it has been—and from which we make the following extract.—*Southern Cultivator.*

"I know not what are to be your future professions or occupations. Every honest calling ought to be esteemed honorable. I address you as moral and intellectual beings—as the patriot citizens of a great republic. You may be merchants, mechanics, farmers, manufacturers—and yet be eminently distinguished and eminently useful, if you will persevere in seeking after knowledge and making a proper use of it. The Medici—Necker—Ricardo—were merchants or bankers: Franklin was a mechanic: Washington was a farmer. By far the greater part of our countrymen are and must be farmers. They must be educated; or what is the same thing, educated men must become farmers, if they would maintain their just influence and ascendency in the State. I cannot wish for the alumni of Cumberland College a more healthful, independent, useful, virtuous, honorable, patriotic employment, than that of agriculture. Nor is there any condition in life more favorable to the calm pursuits of science, philosophy and religion; and to all that previous training which ultimately constitutes wisdom and inflexible integrity. Should our college eventually become the grand nursery of intelligent, virtuous farmers, I shall esteem it the most highly favored institution in our country. I have long thought that our college graduates often mistake the true path to honor and usefulness, in making choice of a learned profession, instead of converting agriculture into a learned profession, as it ought to be, and thereby obtaining an honest livelihood in the tranquil shades of the country."

A HINT.—A soil may be forced, by extreme care, enormous expense, and the use of manure without measure, to produce all sorts of crops; but it is not in such sort of proceedings that the science of agriculture consists. Agriculture ought not to be considered as an object of luxury, and whenever the produce of agricultural management does not amply repay the care and expense bestowed upon it, the system followed is bad. A good agriculturist will, in the first place, make himself acquainted with the nature of the soil, in order to know the kind of plants to which it is best adapted. This knowledge may be easily acquired by an acquaintance with the species of the plants produced upon it spontaneously, or by experiments made upon the land, or upon analogous soils in the neighborhood.—*Farmer's Cabinet.*

THE FARMERS.—The following just and eloquent tribute to this meritorious class of American citizens, is from the pen of an eminent New England clergyman.—*Ibid.*

"There is one class of men upon whom we can yet rely. It is the same class that stood on the little green at Lexington—that gathered on the heights of Bunker Hill, and poured down from the hills of New England—which were the life-blood of the nation when the English lion was ready to devour it,—I mean the FARMERS. They were never found to trample on law and right. Were I to commit my character to any class of men, my family, and my country's safety, it would be to the farmers. They are a class of men such as the world never saw for honesty, intelligence and Roman virtue, sweetened by the Gospel of God. And when this nation quakes, they and their sons are those that will stand as the sheet anchor of our liberties, and hold the ship at her moorings till she outrides the storm."

Agriculture is the theme of the day. The most enlightened of our citizens are embarking in its pursuits, which give assurances of its being ultimately established on a basis concomitant with its merits.

For the New England Farmer.

BERKSHIRE PIGS.

"Be Gar! Monsieur Tonson come again!!"

Mr Editor—Some time in November last I received through the post office a number of the "Boston Cultivator," containing a communication from Wm. S. Turner, which I presume he intended as a reply to mine in the New England Farmer of Oct. 23d. As his name was written on the margin, I had every reason to believe he intended it as a "knock-down argument," and I must forever after hold my peace.

I immediately addressed a communication on the subject to the Editor of the "Boston Cultivator," which, for reasons best known to himself, he has not published.

The communication of Mr Turner, referred to above, I also find in your paper of Nov. 20th, and should I let it pass unnoticed, some might consider it conclusive.

Now, sir, I assert that there is deception on the very face of it—for there is no such firm as "Bement & Glauson," nor is there any such person as Glauson residing in Albany. He says—"But to prove *they were* procured of them, I send you my voucher, which is a bill of sale signed by Thomas Reed, jr., and is in the following words—'Framingham, June 13th, 1839.—I hereby certify that I have this day sold to Mr Wm. Turner, 14 full blooded Berkshire pigs, which I had of [O, tempora! O, mores! where is his conscience?] Messrs Bement & Glauson, of Albany, N. Y., and from their recommendations. Thomas Reed, Jr.'"

This certificate appears to be Mr Turner's sheet anchor—his proof positive. He also says I did not deny that they were procured from Bement & Glauson. I said, "as regards myself, I deny in toto, of having ever sold any Berkshire pigs to Wm. S. Turner, or any other person in that town." I did not, of course, include the name of Thomas Reed, jr. for I did not then know there was such a man in existence.

To make my story short—Not long after I received the Boston Cultivator, I met in Albany, Jeremiah Miller, a farmer, who resides in the town of Schodack, six miles east of Albany, who keeps a few Berkshire hogs and some Durham cattle. I related to him the substance of Mr Turner's advertisement, certificate, &c. "Why," said he, I sold Reed the 14 pigs, and they were only seven-eighths Berkshire, and I sold them to him *as such*. He pressed me to give him a certificate that they were *full blooded Berkshires*, which I refused to do. He finally concluded it would be better not to have my certificate." [I presume he thought one from Bement & Glauson would answer better.] "I sold him at the same time," continued Mr Miller, "one full blooded Berkshire pig and gave him a certificate to that effect."

The above, Mr Editor, is the history of the "14 Berkshire pigs," as advertised by Wm. S. Turner, and backed by a certificate from Thomas Reed, jr. as having been procured of "Bement & Glauson." Any further comment is needless.

Respectfully, your obed't serv't,

CALEB N. BEMENT.

Three Hills Farm, Jan. 1st, 1840.

Plaster operates most beneficially when applied to a dry and clayey soil, or a heavy loam that is liable to bake or gape open. It should be sown in April.

MAMMOTH PEAR.

This pear was raised in Virginia and given to Mr Fitch, of Danville, by his friend, Dr Green of the same place, as a sort of Christmas or New Year's present and served up in the family of Dr Ball, of Northboro,' and passed about to the guests as a part of the evening's entertainment—a portion of which was presented to us by Dr Barnard, of Dorchester, who had the high gratification of carving it up for the company. We have had the pleasure of witnessing a longitudinal survey of the fruit, and are thereby enabled to testify to the dimensions which were given and proved to be as follows: longitudinal circumference 15 1-4 inches; transverse or horizontal circumference 13 1-4 inches; the weight of the pear was 1 3-4 of a pound.

It is but just to say that the pear probably neither weighed nor measured so much as when taken from the tree. It had shrunk some and was considerably defective: the flavor, however, was not impaired, and we found it very palatable.—*Com.*

CHANGE IN SOIL EFFECTING A CHANGE IN PLANTS.

A change in soil may be effected either by removing a plant from one spot of earth to another differing from it in fertility, or by the addition of manure, producing a change in the character of the soil in which a plant grows, without changing the location of the plant. The effect of removing a plant from a comparatively barren to a more fertile soil, is to increase the size of all its parts, and often to convert its organs of one kind into those of another. Experience has taught us, that it is advantageous to supply food to plants artificially. Where increase in the size of vegetables, without reference to their magnitude is desired, it can almost always be accomplished, by affording an increased supply of all the ingredients of the food of plants, distributed in well pulverized soil, in such a manner that the roots of the plants can easily reach it. The effect thus produced, can be greatly increased by additional heat and moisture; and by a partial exclusion of the direct rays of the sun, so as to moderate the evaporation of fluids from the plant. Experience alone can determine to what extent this may profitably be carried in the case of each species of vegetable. The results which have been produced in some instances are truly remarkable. Loudon states that cabbages have been produced weighing half a hundred weight, apples a pound and a half, and cabbage-roses of four inches in diameter, or more than a foot in circumference. By cultivation and a change of soil, the appearance of many trees has been entirely altered. The wild crab-apple, the original stock from which all our vast variety of apples have sprung, has its stem and branches thick set with thorns. On removing it to a more fertile soil and more favorable circumstances, all these thorns have disappeared, and their place has been supplied by fruit-bearing branches. Yet all the distinctive characteristics of the tree, the structure of its wood and bark, the shape and arrangement of its leaves, the form and aggregation of its flowers, indeed all that a botanist would consider characteristic of the plant, have remained unchanged.

Perhaps the most remarkable changes which result from a change of soil, are those of organs of one kind into those of another. It is by such changes that all our double flowers have been obtained. The organs which are most commonly converted into others, are the stamens, and next to them the pistils. In the hundred-leaved rose, and some other double roses, almost all the stamens have been converted into petals; in the flowering cherry the pistils have been converted into green leaves; in the double collumbine a part of the stamens have been converted into petals, another part into nectaries, whilst a third part have retained their original form. The perfect regularity with which the changes have taken place in the last mentioned flower is worthy of notice. Wherever one stamen has been converted into a petal, a corresponding one has always been converted into a nectary; and so regularly have these changes proceeded, that by careful dissection, you may separate one of these double flowers into several single ones, each perfect in itself, and destitute of none of its appropriate parts. Where flowers have been doubled by art, the only sure way of propagating them, is by some means by which the new plant should be nothing more than a continuation of the old one, as by slips or cuttings. Whenever the seed is resorted to, there is danger that the plant will revert to its original type, and the flowers appear single again. A change of color also frequently results from a change of soil. Respecting the nature of this change, no fixed laws have been as yet discovered. As a general thing, however, the brightness of the colors of a flower is injured by enriching the soil in which it grows; and hence florists, when they wish to procure tulips of very bright colors, prefer planting the bulbs in a light sandy soil, which is rather poor than otherwise.—*Farmers' Register.*

Agricultural Improvement.—In the retrospect of the past, we will find that agriculture has received a greater impulse during the last twenty years than in double or treble that period, previously,—that during this space of time, scientific knowledge and enlightened education have been brought to bear upon the subject, and in putting theory into practice, the narrow prejudices contracted by the world at large, have been thrown aside. Science has clearly demonstrated that in this pursuit there is an ample field for the exercise of the clearest faculties, and the deepest scientific researches, calculated to afford enjoyment to those engaged in it, and fully reimburse their expenditures.

This march of improvement is not stayed,—happily we may safely assert, that at no point of time was it more in the full tide of progress than at the present, and no limits can be set to its advancement. To quicken it, our farmers themselves must lay hold of the matter;—they should individually feel that a portion of this work is assigned them;—that they are called upon as integrant parts of a great community, to further its interests, by the means which they severally have at command;—they should be willing, impartially, and unbiassed by old prejudices, to canvass all their actions, and bring them to the test of reason. They should not suppose that in any one particular have they reached to ultimate perfection, but keep this always in view as the point to arrive at.—*Farmers' Cab.*

Notwithstanding the immense grain crops of this country the past season, and the fact that large quantities of flour have been exported to Europe, still several vessels have arrived at New York lately, with rye from Odessa. This may seem somewhat strange to those who are not acquainted with the fact that this rye is intended for the *distillery*.—*Daily Times.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Boston, Wednesday, January 15, 1840.

AGRICULTURAL MEETING.

The Commissioner of Agricultural Survey having obtained the use of the Representatives Hall, for the purpose; notified the first agricultural meeting of the season, for Monday evening at 7 o'clock. The meeting was very fully attended. This evening was taken because no other evening in the week would have been convenient for Mr Webster's attendance, though it was sincerely regretted that it should interfere with other lectures holden on that evening; and that, on this account the presence of many gentlemen, ardent friends of agricultural improvement, was prevented. Mr Webster, having, in his recent tour, made the husbandry of England a particular subject of observation and inquiry, it was highly desirable to have from his own lips some account of his observations and impressions; and of his views of the applicableness of foreign rules, and modes of husbandry to our own country.

The meeting was organised by the choice of Hon. Mr Thaxter, of the council, to preside; and the Agriculture of Massachusetts having been announced as the subject of the evening's discussion, intending by it to open a wide range of conversation, some general views of the subject and the leading topics of inquiry were briefly stated, when Mr Webster, being particularly referred to, rose and addressed the meeting in a plain, direct, perspicuous, instructive and admirable manner; and was followed by Professor Silliman, of Connecticut, likewise called upon by the chair, with a corresponding felicity of matter and manner.

It would be matter of the highest utility and gratification if both these addresses could be given in full by themselves. We can scarcely hope for this; and in place of it, as we know the public curiosity will be anxiously alive to receive them, we shall give, from a few very imperfect and hasty notes, our reminiscences of the principal remarks of these two distinguished gentlemen.

Mr Webster began with stating that he regarded agriculture as the leading interest of society; and in all its relations having a direct and intimate bearing upon human comfort and the national prosperity. He had been familiar with its operations in his youth; and he had always looked upon the subject with a lively and deep interest. He did not regard himself as particularly qualified to judge of the subject in all its various aspects and departments; and he neither himself regarded, nor would he have others regard his opinions as authoritative; but the subject had been one of careful observation to him, both in public and private life; and his visit to Europe, at a season of the year particularly favorable for this purpose, had given him the opportunity of seeing their improved husbandry, and as far as it might be interesting or would have a bearing upon the subject of the evening's discussion, the agriculture of Massachusetts, he would proceed to give his views and impressions.

How far in this matter the example of other countries was to be followed was a subject worthy of much consideration. The example of a foreign country might be too closely followed. It would furnish a safe rule of imitation only as far as the circumstances of a country correspond with those of the country whose rules and customs it was proposed to adopt.

The great objects of agriculture and the great agricultural products of different countries were much the same. Bread, meat and clothing constituted these objects. Cotton might be regarded as an incidental product, peculiar to certain latitudes and countries. Though the great agricultural products of different countries were the same, yet there were various diversities of condition and circumstances, which materially affected the agriculture of different countries.

The primary elements which entered into the consideration of the agriculture of a country were four; climate, soil, price of land and price of labor. In any comparison, therefore of the agriculture of England with that of Massachusetts, these elements were to be taken particularly into view.

The climate of England differed essentially from that of this country. They were on the western side of the eastern, and we on the eastern side of the western continent. The climate of each country was materially affected by their respective situations in relation to the ocean. The winds which prevail both in this country and in England are from the west, and westerly winds blow three days out of four. These facts are familiar. The consequences resulting from them are, that our winters are colder and our summers much hotter than in England. Our latitude was about that of Oporto, yet the temperature was very different. On these accounts, therefore, the maturing of the crops in England and the power of using these crops would create a material difference between their agriculture and ours. It may be supposed that our climate must resemble that of China in the same latitudes; and this fact may have an essential bearing upon that branch of agriculture which it is proposed to introduce among us, the production of silk.

The second point of difference between the two countries lies in the soil. The soil of England is mainly argillaceous; a soft and unctuous loam upon a substratum of clay. This may be considered as the predominant characteristic in the parts which he visited. The southern parts of England are sandy, resting upon deep beds of chalk. The rocks in England are of a different formation from ours. Ours is a granite soil. There is granite in Great Britain; but this species of soil prevails in Scotland, a part of the country which more resembles our own. Our soils are stony. Such lands are not found in England. We may have lands as good as any in England Our alluvial soils on Connecticut river and in some other parts of the country, are equal to any lands; but these have no clay. It is not proper to compare the soil of England with the soil of America, because of the extreme differences in different parts of our country, stretching as it does through so many degrees of latitude, and embracing in its extent every variety of climate and soil.

The price of land, another important element in agricultural calculations, differs greatly from the price of land with us. It is three times as high as in Massachusetts.

The price of labor is much more in Massachusetts than in England. In different parts of England the price of labor is considerably various; but it may be set down as twice as dear with us as there.

These are general remarks, which have suggested themselves in regard to the state of things abroad. Now have we any thing to learn from them? Is there any thing in their condition applicable to ours; in which the agriculture of England may be of use to Massachusetts and to other countries?

The subject of agriculture in England has strongly attracted the attention and inquiries of men of science. They have studied particularly the nature of the soil. More than twenty years ago, Sir Humphrey Davy undertook to treat the subject of the application of chemical knowledge to agriculture in the chemical analysis of soils and manures. The same attention has been continued to the subject, and the extraordinary discoveries and advances in chemical science, since his time, are likely to operate greatly to the advantage of agriculture. The best results may be expected from it. These inquiries are now prosecuted in France with great enthusiasm and success. We may hope for like beneficial results here from the application of science to this subject with us.

A second material feature in the agriculture of England consists in the rotation of crops. It is a settled principle in their agriculture, that two white crops shall not come in immediate succession. A tenant would be discharged by his landlord who should violate this rule. White crops are grain crops, wheat, barley, rye and oats. These are succeeded by, or alternated with, potatoes, vetches or tares, beans, peas, turnips and clover, which are considered as green crops.

The great improvements in English husbandry are all traced to the introduction from sixty to eighty years ago, of the cultivation of turnips. Before that time, when lands became exhausted by the repetition of grain crops, they were left, as it was termed, fallow, that is, were not cultivated at all, but abandoned to recruit themselves as they might. This occurred as often as every fourth year, so that one-quarter of the arable land was always out of cultivation and yielded nothing. Turnips are now substituted in the place of these naked fallows; and now land in turnips is considered as fallow. What is the philosophy of this? The raising of crops does not in itself enrich, but exhausts the land. The exhaustion of the land, however, as experience and observation have fully demonstrated, takes place mainly when the seeds of a plant are allowed to perfect themselves. The turnip crop is a biennial plant. It does not perfect its seeds before it is consumed. There is another circumstance in respect to the turnip plant, which deserves consideration. Plants, it is well understood, derive a large portion of their nutriment from the air. The leaves of plants are their lungs. The leaves of turnips expose a wide surface to the atmosphere, and derive, therefore, much of their subsistence and nutriment. The broad leaves of the turnips likewise shade the ground, preserve its moisture, and prevent, in some measure, its exhaustion by the sun and air.

The turnips have a farther and ultimate use. Meat and clothing come from animals. The more animals are sustained upon a farm, the more meat and the more clothing. These things bear, of course, a proportion to the numbers of bullocks, sheep, swine and poultry which are maintained. The great inquiry then is, what kind of crops will least exhaust the land in their cultivation, and furnish support to the largest number of animals?

A very large amount of land in England is cultivated in turnips. Fields of turnips of three, four, and even five hundred acres are not uncommon. Since the introduction of the turnip culture bullocks and sheep have trebled in number. Turnips, for the reasons given, are not great exhausters of the soil; and they furnish abundant food for animals. Where one bushel of oats are produced ten bushels of turnips may be grown at the same cost. The great difference in the two crops is to be found in the farmer's barn yard. Here is the test of their comparative value. This is the secret of the great advantages, which follow from their cultivation. The value of manure in agriculture is well appreciated. Dr Ure states the extraordinary fact, that the value of the manure annually applied to the crops in England, at current prices, surpasses in value the whole amount of their foreign commerce. There is no doubt that it greatly exceeds it. The turnip crop returns a vast amount of nutritive matter to the soil. The farmer then from his green crops, and by a regular system of rotation, finds green feed for his cattle and wheat for the market. The growth of green crops is intimately connected with a system of rotation of crops.

The lands in the county of Norfolk, in England, are sandy. Here is the place of the remarkable cultivation and distinguished improvements of Mr Coke, now Lord Leicester. His usual rotation is barley, clover, turnips, wheat.* These lands resemble much of the land in the county of Plymouth; and the sandy lands to be found in the vicinity of the Connecticut and Merrimack rivers. The cultivation of green crops in New England, deserves attention. There is no incapacity in our soil; and no circumstances unfavorable to their production. What would be the best kind of succulent vegetables to be cultivated, whether turnips, or carrots, or Swedes he was not prepared to say. But no attempts within his knowledge had been made among us of a systematic agriculture; and until we enter upon some regular rotation of crops, and our husbandry become more systematic, no distinguished success could be looked for. As to our soil, as had been remarked, there was no inherent incapacity for the production of any of the common crops. We could raise wheat in Massachusetts. The average crop in England is twentysix bushels to the acre. From his own farm, and it was comparatively a thin and poor soil, he had obtained this summer seventysix bushels of wheat upon three acres of land. It was not therefore any want of capability in the soil; but the improvement and success of our husbandry must depend upon a succession of crops adapted to the circumstances of our soil, climate, and peculiar condition.

* He has increased the rental of his farms by his improvements more than four times, from twentyfive to two hundred thousand dollars a year. H. C.

In England a large portion of the turnip crop is consumed on the land where it grows. The sheep are fed out doors all winter; and he saw many large flocks, thousands and millions of sheep, which were never housed. This was matter of surprise especially considering the wetness of the climate; and these sheep were often exposed in fields where a dry spot could not be found for them to lie down upon. Sheep were often folded in England by wattled fences or hurdles temporarily erected in different parts of the field and removed from place to place as the portions of the crop were consumed. In some cases they were folded and the turnips dug and carried to them. In such case they were always fed upon lands which were intended the next year to be brought under cultivation. In one case he saw a man employed in the field in raising turnips with a crow bar for sheep, who was expected to be occupied exclusively in this business the whole winter. It is deemed by many farmers much the preferable mode to dig all the turnips for the sheep as they are wanted. In this case they are more completely consumed. The Swedish turnip does not suffer even by being frozen in the winter, but is found when thawed in the spring uninjured. In the north of England turnips are generally housed; or they are covered with straw on the land which is to be brought under the plough. Land is often designated by way of excellence, as "land that will carry sheep;" that is, land on which crops of turnips are raised for feeding the sheep; and such lands are greatly enriched by their being fed upon it. In the Lothians of Scotland, where the cultivation is as fine as in any part of Great Britain, turnips are largely cultivated. Here they are generally covered or housed. The Sweedish turnips are particularly suited to a cold climate.

Our limits and the necessity of going immediately to press do not permit us to complete our report of the remainder of Mr Webster's speech, which we regret to divide. But this, together with the remarks of Professor Silliman, we shall give place to in our next. We feel that we do great injustice to Mr Webster by our mode of reporting. We do not presume to give his words; and we shall consider ourselves quite fortunate, if we are successful in embodying and communicating with tolerable accuracy the information and sentiments uttered by him.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Jan. 13, 1840.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 560 Beef Cattle, 130 Stores, 1050 Sheep, and 40 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—We quote to correspond with last week. First quality, $6 25. Second quality, $5 50 a $6 00. Third quality, $4 50 a $5 00.

Barrelling Cattle.—Mess $5 50; No. 1 $5 00.

Stores.—Very few sales effected.

Cows and Calves.—We noticed a few sales at $27, $32, $35, and $40.

Sheep.—Lots were sold at $2 25, $2 75, $3 50, $4 25, and $4 50.

Swine.—Those at market were peddled from 4 to 6 cents.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, week ending January 12.

Jan., 1840.	7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 6	10	32	23	W.
Tuesday, 7	10	24	20	N. W.
Wednesday, 8	13	29	22	N. W.
Thursday, 9	14	32	28	S.
Friday, 10	22	33	32	N. W.
Saturday, 11	31	29	20	N. E.
Sunday, 12	10	17	11	N.

A MAN WANTED.

To do the work on a small place, a few miles from the city. He must understand the cultivation of vegetables, fruits, &c., and the care of horse, cows, &c. A single man, from 20 to 30 years of age, of steady and industrious habits, may inquire at this office. J. B. I.

January 15.

ROHAN POTATOES,

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 52 North Market Street, at $5 per barrel.

October 16. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

VEGETABLE CUTTER.

Willis's New Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine is calculated for cutting up vegetables and esculent roots for fodder, and is one of the most useful and economical machines that the farmer can use. The subscribers feel great confidence in recommending this machine to the public; they are aware that it has been long wanted and they now offer a machine that cannot fail to give satisfaction upon a fair trial. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels per minute, in the best possible manner, and is not liable to get out of order, being made in the most substantial manner. No farmer should be without one of them. For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market Street.

December 18. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GREEN'S PATENT STRAW CUTTER.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 and 52 North Market Street, have for sale, Green's Patent Straw, Hay and Stalk Cutter, operating on a mechanical principle not before applied to any implement for this purpose. The most prominent effects of this application, and some of the consequent peculiarities of the machine are:

1. So great a reduction of the quantum of power requisite to use it, that the strength of a half grown boy is sufficient to work it very efficiently.

2. With even this moderate power, it easily cuts two bushels a minute, which is full twice as fast as has been claimed by any other machine even when worked by horse or steam power.

3. The knives, owing to the peculiar manner in which they cut, require sharpening less often than those of any other straw cutter.

4. The machine is simple in its construction, made and put together very strongly. It is therefore not so liable as the complicated machines in general use to get out of order.

BONE MANURE.

The subscriber informs his friends and the public, that after ten years experience, he is fully convinced that ground bones form the most powerful stimulant that can be applied to the earth as a manure

He keeps constantly on hand a supply of Ground Bone, and solicits the patronage of the agricultural community. Price at the Mill 35 cents per bushel; put up in casks and delivered at any part of the city at 40 cents per bushel, and no charge for casks or carting

Also, ground Oyster Shells

Orders left at the Bone Mill, near Tremont road, in Roxbury, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No 52 North Market Street, or through the Post Office will meet with prompt attention

NAHUM WARD.

AMERICAN SWINE BREEDER.

Just published and for sale by JOSEPH BRECK & CO. the American Swine Breeder; a Practical Treatise on the Selection, Rearing, and Fattening of Swine, by Henry W. Ellsworth: price 75 cents.

January 15.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

		From	To
Alum, American,	pound	5	5½
Ashes, Pearl, per 100 lbs.		5 50	5 62
Pot, " "		5 00	5 25
Beans, white, Foreign,	bushel	1 62	2 00
" " Domestic,	"	2 00	2 00
Beef, mess,	barrel	14 00	14 50
No. 1.	"	12 00	12 50
prime,	"	10 00	10 50
Beeswax, white,	pound		
yellow,	"	28	35
Bristles, American,	"	35	70
Butter, shipping,	"	11	13
dairy,	"	17	20
Candles, mould,	"	13	14
dipped,	"		
sperm,	"	40	41
Cheese, new milk,	pound	10	
Cider,	dozen	1 50	1 75
refined,	barrel	2 50	4 50
Bone Manure,	bushel		35
in casks,	"		40
Feathers, northern, geese,	pound		
southern, geese,	"	37	46
Flax, (American)	"	9	12
Fish, Cod, Grand Bank,	quintal	2 00	2 67
Bay, Chaleur,	"	2 20	2 27
Haddock,	"	1 25	1 50
Mackerel, No. 1,	barrel	12 00	12 25
No. 2,	"	10 00	10 25
No. 3,	"	6 00	6 25
Alewives, dry salted, No. 1.	"	6 00	6 25
Salmon, No. 1,	"	22 00	23 00
Flour, Genesee, cash,	"	6 37	6 50
Baltimore, Howard street,	"	6 50	6 62
Richmond canal,	"		6 50
Alexandria wharf,	"		
Rye,	"	4 00	4 25
Meal, Indian, in bbls.	"	4 00	4 12
Grain: Corn, northern yellow,	bushel		85
southern flat, yellow,	"	69	70
white,	"	64	66
Rye, northern,	"	75	80
Barley,	"	75	80
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	42	45
southern,	"	33	35
Grindstones, pr ton of 2000 lbs. rough,		18 00	20 00
do. do. do. finished,		28 00	30 00
Hams, northern,	pound	9	10
southern and western,	"	7	8
Hay, best English, per ton,		16 00	18 00
Eastern screwed,		13 00	14 00
Hops, 1st quality,	pound	18	20
2d quality,	"	16	18
Lard, Boston,	"		9
southern,	"	7	8
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,	"	29	30
do. country do.	"	25	27
Baltimore city tannage,	"	26	28
do. dry hides,	"	22	24
New York red, light,	"	21	23
Boston, do. slaughter,	"	21	22
Boston dry hides,	"	20	22
Lime, best sort,	cask	85	90
Molasses, New Orleans,	gallon	27	30
Sugar House,	"	50	55
Oil, Sperm, Spring,	"	1 10	1 12
Winter,	"		1 20
Whale, refined,	"	50	55
Linseed, American,	"	65	66
Neat's Foot,	"	95	
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.		2 87	3 00
Pork, extra clear,	barrel		
clear,	"	15 00	16 00
Mess,	"	12 00	13 00
Prime,	"	11 50	12 50
Whole Hogs,	pound	5	6
Seeds: Herd's Grass,	bushel	2 50	3 00
Red Top, southern,	"	80	1 00
northern,	"		1 50
Canary,	"	2 25	2 50
Hemp,	"	2 25	2 50
Flax,	"	1 37	1 62
Red Clover, northern,	pound		
Southern Clover, none,	"		
Soap, American, Brown,	"	5	7
" Castile,	"	12	13
Tallow, tried,	"	11	12
Teazles, 1st sort,	pr M.	2 50	3 00
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound		
American, full blood, washed,	"		
do. 3-4ths do.	"		
do. 1-2 do.	"		
do. 1-4 and common,	"		
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,	"		
No. 1,	"		
No. 2,	"		
No. 3,	"		

MISCELLANEOUS.

JOHN ADAMS AND GEORGE III.

The account that Mr Adams gave in a letter to a friend, of his introduction to George III. at the Court of St. James, as the first Minister from the *rebel colonies*, is very interesting.

"At one o'clock on Wednesday, the 1st of June, 1785, the Master of Ceremonies called at my house and went with me to the Secretary of State's office, in Cleveland row, where the Marquis of Carmarthen received and introduced me to Mr Frazier, his under secretary, who had been, as his lordship said, uninterruptedly in that office through all the changes in administration for thirty years. After a short conversation, Lord Carmarthen invited me to go with him in his coach to court. When we arrived in the antechamber, the Master of Ceremonies introduced him and attended me while the Secretary of State went to take the commands of the King. While I stood in this place, where it seems all ministers stand upon such occasions, always attended by the Master of Ceremonies, the room was very full of Ministers of State, Bishops, and all other sorts of courtiers, as well as the next room, which is the King's bedchamber. You may well suppose I was the focus of all eyes. I was relieved, however, from the embarrassment of it by the Swedish and Dutch Ministers, who came to me and entertained me with a very agreeable conversation during the whole time. Some other gentlemen whom I had seen before, came to make their compliments to me, until the Marquis of Carmarthen returned and desired me to go with him to his Majesty. I went with his lordship through the levee room into the King's closet. The door was shut, and I was left with his Majesty and the Secretary of State alone. I made three reverences: one at the door, another about half way, and another before the presence, according to the usage established at this and all the Northern Courts of Europe, and then I addressed myself to his Majesty in the following words:

"Sire: The United States have appointed me Minister Plenipotentiary to your Majesty and have directed me to deliver to your Majesty this letter, which contains the evidence of it. It is in obedience to their express commands that I have the honor to assure your Majesty of their unanimous disposition and desire to cultivate the most friendly and liberal intercourse between your Majesty's subjects and their citizens, and their best wishes for your Majesty's health and happiness, and for that of your family.

"The appointment of a Minister from the United States to your Majesty's Court will form an epoch in the history of England and America. I think myself more fortunate than all my fellow citizens in having the distinguished honor to be the first to stand in your Majesty's royal presence in a diplomatic character; and I shall esteem myself the happiest of men if I can be instrumental in recommending my country more and more to your royal benevolence, and of restoring an entire esteem, confidence, and affection; or, in other words, "the old good nature and the good old humor," between the people who, though separated by an ocean, and under different governments, have the same language, a similar religion and a kindred blood. I beg your Majesty's permission to add, that although I have sometimes been instructed by my country, it was never in my whole life in a manner so agreeable to myself."

"The King listened to every word I said with dignity it is true, but with apparent emotion. Whether it was my visible agitation, for I felt more than I could express, that touched him, I cannot say; but he was much affected, and answered me with more tremor than I had spoken with, and said—

"Sir: The circumstances of this audience are so extraordinary, the language you have now held is so extremely proper and the feelings you have discovered so justly adapted to the occasion, that I not only receive with pleasure the assurance of the friendly disposition of the United States, but I am glad the choice has fallen upon you to be their minister. I wish you, sir, to believe that it may be understood in America, that I have done nothing in the late contest but what I thought myself indispensably bound to do, by the duty which I owed my people. I will be frank with you. I was the last to conform to the separation; but the separation having become inevitable, I have always said, as I now say, that I would be the first to meet the friendship of the United States as an independent power. The moment I see such sentiments and language as yours prevail, and a disposition to give this country the preference, that moment I shall say, let the circumstances of language, religion, and blood have their natural, full effect."

"I dare not say that these were the King's precise words; and it is even possible that in some particulars I may have mistaken his meaning; for although his pronunciation is as distinct as I ever heard, he hesitated sometimes between members of the same period. He was indeed much affected, and I was not less so, and therefore I cannot be so certain that I was so attentive, heard so clearly, and understood so perfectly, as to be confident of all his words or sense. This I do say, that the foregoing is his Majesty's meaning, as nearly as I can recollect it.

"The King then asked me whether I came last from France, and upon my answering in the affirmative, he put on an air of familiarity, and, smiling, or rather laughing, said, 'I here is an opinion among some people that you are not the most attached of all your countrymen to the manners of France.' I was surprised at this, because I thought it an indiscretion, and a descent from his dignity. I was a little embarrassed; but, determined not to deny the truth on the one hand, nor lead him to infer from it my attachment to England on the other, I threw off as much gravity as I could, and assumed an air of gaiety and a tone of decision, as ar as was decent, and said, 'That opinion, sire, is not mistaken: I avow to your majesty I have no attachment but to my own country.' The King replied as quick as lightning, 'An honest man will have no other.'

"The King then said a word or two to the Secretary of State, which, being between them I could not hear, and then turned round and bowed to me, as is customary with all kings and princes when they give the signal to retire. I retreated, stepping backwards, as is the etiquette; and making my last reverence at the door of the chamber, I went to my carriage."—*Hayward's N. E. Gazeteer.*

It is mentioned as an interesting fact by the Lynn Puritan, that a person may now travel from Lynn or Salem, to Bombay, in the East Indies, entirely by steam; and the time required to accomplish the journey is but six weeks. He can go to the city of Jerusalem in one month.

TEACHING CHILDREN TO LIE.

My nearest neighbor, when I resided in Connecticut, was a man moving in the ordinary walks of life, and was a prudent, careful, honest, and industrious husbandman. Being at a certain time on some occasion at his son-in-law's, one of the boys of the family wished to go home with his grandfather: it not being convenient at that time, the grandfather told the boy that he could not very well carry him at that time, but added, "Next time grandpa comes he'll carry you home with him."—The boy was pacified. The old gentleman not thinking any more, (as, alas! many careless and faulty parents do,) of what he had said to the boy, was several times at the house without fulfilling his engagement; and, perhaps, without once having it come again into his mind. But the boy was not so forgetful. He recollected well the promise of his grandpa. In process of time the grandfather took the boy behind him on his horse, and was conveying him to his paternal abode. On the way the boy began to remonstrate with his grandfather on the subject, by saying, "When grandpa was at our house one time, he said the next time he came he would carry me home—and grandpa *did not.*"—"Why," says the old gentleman, "you don't think your grandpa would *lie*, do you?" "I don't know," says the boy, "*What does grandpa call it?*" This confounded the old gentleman, and he knew not what reply to make. This anecdote has convinced me more than almost any thing I ever heard, of the importance of regarding strictly and conscientiously what we say to children. Especially it has shown me the evil of trifling with children, and making them unmeaning promises or declarations which have attached to them no truth or signification. And it is my deliberate and fixed opinion, that ofttimes parents, by disregarding, forgetting, and neglecting to fulfil what they declare unto children in promises or threatenings, are chargeable with the pernicious evil of teaching their children to lie; and then perhaps inflicting punishment upon them for the crime. This is hard,—this is cruel,—this is an evil of a monstrous size, prevalent and triumphant to an alarming degree, and which ought speedily and effectually to be corrected. Watch then, and remember to make good what you say to children. Do not threaten them with what you have no business to execute,—such as cutting off ears, taking off skin, &c. In this way you weaken your own hands; render the truth doubtful, and train up your child for falsehood and crime. Whatever else you neglect, yet by no means neglect to teach them by precept and example, an inviolable regard to the truth.—*Youth's Journal.*

"Milk is so dear," exclaimed a young widow to her milkman, "I wish I could afford to keep a cow of my own." "Would'nt it be cheaper, ma," replied her little daughter archly, "to keep a *milk man* of our own."

It is stated by the Mayor of Boston that one-fifth of the taxation of the city goes to the public schools.

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